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Type or Printed Name	Maria J. Sousa		
Signature	Maria J. Sousa	Date	Dec. 1, 2003

<b>AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111</b>		Attorney Docket	GUID-003DIV2
		Confirmation No.	2546
		First Named Inventor	Charles S. Taylor
		Application Number	09/440,106
		Filing Date	11/15/1999
		Group Art Unit	3736
		Examiner Name	Nasser, Robert L.
		Title	Surgical Devices for Imposing a Negative Pressure to Stabilize Cardiac Tissue During Surgery

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated May 30, 2003 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before August 30, 2003. A request for a three month extension of time is also submitted herewith making thereby extending the response date to December 1, 2003 (November 30, 2003 being a Sunday). In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

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02 FC:1202 126.00 DA